

To: The Honorable Mayor and City Council

From: Lumane Pluviose-Claude, Deputy City Manager



Date: October 14, 2014

RE: **A RESOLUTION OF THE VICE MAYOR AS ACTING MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA, DESIGNATING N.E. 131ST STREET FROM NORTH MIAMI AVENUE TO N.E. 2ND AVENUE TO BE KNOWN AS "RICHARD AND CHERRY COOK ROAD"; FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ALLOCATE AND EXPEND THE NECESSARY FUNDS TO COVER THE COSTS FOR SIGNAGE, AND DO ALL THINGS NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THE DESIGNATION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND FOR ALL OTHER PURPOSES**

RECOMMENDATION

That the City Mayor and Council adopt a resolution to support having N.E. 131st Street between North Miami Avenue and N.E. 2nd Avenue within the City of North Miami honorary co-designated as Richard and Cherry Cook, and to authorize the City Manager to produce and install the new sign co-designations.

BACKGROUND

Ms. Cheryl Cook's original request to the North Miami Mayor and Council for co-designating N.E. 131st Street between North Miami Avenue and N.E. 2nd Avenue as Richard and Cherry Cook was supported by a signed petition from at least five neighbors upon Mayor and Council's directive at the September 9, 2014, Council meeting. Ms. Cook is the surviving daughter of her proud, loving, and respected parents, Richard and Cherry Cook, who resided in South Florida since 1960 and tirelessly served the City of North Miami for thirty consecutive years.

As clearly expressed in Ms. Cook's narrative, Mr. Richard "Dick" Cook served in the Army Air Force where he worked his way to a Sergeant's status during World War II. In North

Miami, he served on the Planning and Zoning Board for almost four years and was Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission. He graciously spent many hours visiting City parks, meeting with citizens, and attending educational conferences on behalf of the City. He loved his neighborhood, Breezeswept, and created one of the first Crime Watch programs involving many residents. On his own, he planted trees on both sides of N.E. 131st Street. Unfortunately, Mr. Richard Cook passed at the age of 94 in 2010, and a year later was followed by his beloved wife, Cherry Cook.

Mr. Cook was a leader for his country, community and other charitable organizations, such as the American Legion, Masons, and the Heart Association. As his daughter proudly summarized, "I believe my father's contributions, accomplishments, and dedication to family, community and country are deserving of having our street named in his honor."

ATTACHMENTS

Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE VICE MAYOR AS ACTING MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA, DESIGNATING N.E. 131ST STREET FROM NORTH MIAMI AVENUE TO N.E. 2ND AVENUE TO BE KNOWN AS “RICHARD AND CHERRY COOK ROAD”; FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ALLOCATE AND EXPEND THE NECESSARY FUNDS TO COVER THE COSTS FOR SIGNAGE, AND DO ALL THINGS NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THE DESIGNATION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND FOR ALL OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, Richard and Cherry Cook were longtime residents of North Miami living in the City of North Miami (“City”) for close to thirty (30) years; and

WHEREAS, Richard Cook contributed to the City by serving on the Planning and Zoning Board as well as serving as Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission; and

WHEREAS, as part of his community service to the City, Richard Cook developed the Crime Watch program in the Breezeswept neighborhood in an effort to engage residents to reduce crime as well as planted trees along 131st Street in unison with a City road work project; and

WHEREAS, Richard Cook was a leader in charitable organizations such as the American Legion where he served as a Commander, the Masons, and the Heart Association where he organized efforts such as blood drives before they were commonplace; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his substantial years of service in the City, Richard Cook also served this country as a Sergeant in the United States Air Force during World War II; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his continuing dedication and commitment to the City and its residents, the Vice Mayor as Acting Mayor and City Council wish to designate N.E. 131st Street from North Miami Avenue to N.E. 2nd Avenue to be known as “RICHARD AND CHERRY COOK ROAD”; and

WHEREAS, the Vice Mayor as Acting Mayor and City Council desire to authorize the City Manager to allocate and expend the necessary funds to cover the costs of any and all signs to indicate the designation of said street as “RICHARD AND CHERRY COOK ROAD.”

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE VICE MAYOR AS ACTING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA:**

Section 1. Approval of Street Designation. The Vice Mayor as Acting Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami, Florida, hereby designate N.E. 131st Street from North Miami Avenue to N.E. 2nd Avenue to be known as "RICHARD AND CHERRY COOK ROAD."

Section 2. Authorization of City Manager. The Vice Mayor as Acting Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami, Florida hereby authorize the City Manager to allocate and expend the necessary funds to cover the costs for signage, and do all things necessary to effectuate the designation.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by a _____ vote of the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami, Florida, this _____ day of October, 2014.

PHILIPPE BIEN-AIME
VICE MAYOR AS ACTING MAYOR

ATTEST:

MICHAEL A. ETIENNE, ESQ.
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

REGINE M. MONESTIME
CITY ATTORNEY

SPONSORED BY: CITY ADMINISTRATION

Moved by: _____

Seconded by: _____

Vote:

Vice Mayor as Acting Mayor Philippe Bien-Aime

_____ (Yes) _____ (No)

Councilperson Scott Galvin

_____ (Yes) _____ (No)

Councilperson Carol Keys, Esq.

_____ (Yes) _____ (No)

Councilperson Marie Erlande Steril

_____ (Yes) _____ (No)